

CONFIDENTIAL

*Burmese
Lang. folder*

CTO/OPC

8 April 1949

Deputy Chief, TRS

Burmese Language Training.

1. The Foreign Service Institute has informed me that there are only two professionally competent Burmese linguistic scientists available in this country, and that only one of them is interested in teaching. He is the author of the Army Burmese language course as well as the author of the Burmese-English dictionary. (The original and only complete copy of the dictionary is in the custody of the Foreign Service Institute at present.)
2. This linguistic scientist is at present teaching in college but he might be persuaded to spend the months of June, July and August teaching at the FSI. If he is not approached soon enough he may take up a summer teaching assignment in college.
3. If hired for the summer by the FSI he would be put on at a P-5 which would mean an expenditure of \$1500. In addition, a native tutor would cost about \$480 for a three month period. Thus, a minimum of about \$1980 would be required for three months instruction in Burmese.
4. Since the OPC language subsidy goes into effect on 1 July, two-thirds of the native tutor could be charged off to the OPC language subsidy, but since Burmese requires a special linguistic scientist, the entire cost of his employment would need to be authorized. Therefore, in order for me to give the FSI the green light on setting up the Burmese language course I will need an OPC authorization to pay approximately \$1660 (\$1500 plus 1/3 of \$480).
5. As soon as I receive this authorization I will ask the FSI to attempt to employ the Burmese linguistic scientist and to set up the Burmese language course.
6. If the course is set up, a total of five students could be accommodated without extra charge.

Deputy Chief, TRS.

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